

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

Resolution No. 8524, amending the adopted City of Bellevue 2013 State Legislative Agenda.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Adoption of the State Legislative Agenda and Statement of Policy does not have a direct fiscal impact on the City. However, some items in the State Legislative Agenda and Statement of Policy call for increased funding for programs. If approved by the legislature, some items could impact the City in the future, through increases or decreases in City revenues or expenses.

STAFF CONTACT:

Joyce Nichols, 452-4225
City Manager's Office

POLICY CONSIDERATION

The State Legislative Agenda, together with the Statement of Policy, sets forth the City's policy positions with respect to state legislative issues. These documents are the basis for communications between City officials, State Legislators, State agencies, and other interested parties regarding such issues.

BACKGROUND

On December 3, 2012 Council passed Resolution No. 8488 adopting both documents for the 2013 State Legislative Session. At the January 28 Extended Study Session, during its review of the draft 2013 Federal Legislative Agenda, Council directed staff to modify the language in the State Legislative Agenda regarding the SR 520 Bridge Replacement Project in order to make it more consistent with the 2013 Federal Legislative Agenda. A new paragraph that responds to Council direction has been added to the Transportation Section, as shown in redline, of the amended State Legislative Agenda (provided as Attachment 1).

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution will be effective immediately upon adoption.

OPTIONS

1. Approve Resolution No. 8524, amending the adopted City of Bellevue 2013 State Legislative Agenda.
2. Do not approve Resolution No. 8524 and provide alternative direction to staff.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution No. 8524, amending the adopted City of Bellevue 2013 State Legislative Agenda.

MOTION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 8524

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Proposed Amended 2013 State Legislative Agenda
- (2) Resolution No. 8524 amending the adopted City of Bellevue 2013 State Legislative Agenda



Proposed Amended

CITY OF BELLEVUE

2013 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

REVENUE/FISCAL ISSUES

Local Business and Occupation (B&O) Tax and Licensing Authority: Bellevue opposes State administration of the local B&O tax because it will reduce local flexibility to tailor the tax to local conditions and it will reduce revenues to the City. Bellevue, along with four other cities, is leading the effort to streamline administration and reporting of local B&O through the development of a single multi-city portal for registering businesses and reporting and paying local B&O taxes.

State appropriations/authority benefitting local governments: Bellevue opposes reductions in State-shared revenues and supports retention of programs and authority benefitting local governments such as: 1) liquor taxes and profits; 2) honoring the State's commitment and continuing funding for the annexation sales tax credit for cities that have already annexed areas; 3) local public health funding; 4) the Washington Wildlife Recreation Program; 5) Public Works Trust Fund; 6) approved Local Revitalization Fund projects; and 7) Municipal Criminal Justice Account, among others. Additionally, Bellevue opposes "sweeping" funding from the State Capital Budget for use by the State General Fund.

Liquor Taxes and Profits: Bellevue supports legislation to fully restore the local share of liquor excise taxes that existed prior to passage of ESSHB 2832. Further, Bellevue supports removing the cap on liquor profits imposed under ESSHB 2832. These funds are needed to provide critical local services, especially in public safety and human services where the greatest impacts of wider availability of alcohol products are most likely to be felt.

Job Order Contracting (JOC): Bellevue supports extension of JOC legislation for public works projects to allow continued cost savings in the procurement of these projects.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation and the Economy. The strength of our region's economy depends upon a multimodal, well-integrated transportation system that reliably moves people and goods within and between significant job centers. Completion of state corridor plans for I-405 and SR 520 is necessary to accelerate economic recovery and provide immediate benefit to the entire state. To that end, we urge the legislature to advance timely completion of the I-405 Master Plan and the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project from Montlake to the Eastside.

New Transportation Revenue Package: Bellevue supports the development of a robust State-enacted transportation package that provides new revenue for roads and transit, including an increase in the State gas tax, dedicated gas tax funding for local distribution and focuses on the following projects that are of critical importance to the City:

- Completion of projects identified in the I-405 Master Plan, including:
 - NE 6th extension to 120th Ave. NE
 - One new lane in each direction from I-90 to Renton
 - Restripe NE 12th to SE 8th to accommodate an additional lane in each direction
 - Completion of southbound SR 520 to I-405 braided ramp at NE 10th
- Funding for a new full interchange at 124th and SR 520

PUBLIC SAFETY

Medical Marijuana and Passage of Initiative 502: City staff is evaluating these issues and will propose a position(s) once more is known about the potential impact of the ballot initiative regarding adult recreational marijuana, the federal response, and subsequent to a discussion by the Council of the primary policy questions about the appropriate role for local zoning authorities. At a minimum, the City will monitor and advocate for Bellevue's interests as appropriate.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Public Records Requests: Bellevue takes a customer-focused approach in providing efficient and effective access to public records, and is committed to allocating resources to respond appropriately to the Public Records Act while balancing resources and customer expectations. The City recognizes that some local government agencies have been overwhelmed in their efforts to meet their obligations under the Act due to the actions of a small number of requestors. In this light, the City supports legislation that would permit injunctive relief from abusive and punitive requestors, and would allow cities to develop resource limits to prevent escalating records requests from draining budgets.

Sustainable Personnel Costs: Bellevue supports amendments to the criteria for binding interest arbitration that would permit consideration of the following: ability to pay; economic conditions and other unique characteristics at the state, regional and local level; and qualifications for arbitrators.

Pension Funding: Bellevue supports amendments to pension legislation to “stabilize” contribution rates that do not fluctuate with economic “boom/bust” cycles and a more fiscally responsible approach to pension funding.

LAND USE

SEPA Reform: Continue participating in developing options to streamline and reduce unnecessary regulations and costs while ensuring the current flexibility in SEPA is preserved and the proposed exemptions are compatible with Bellevue processes.

SEPA Latecomer Fee Authority: Upfront SEPA review is a tool that many cities are using to promote economic development. Bellevue supports cost recovery authority for this planning.

UTILITIES/ENVIRONMENT

NPDES Permit and Stormwater Funding: Bellevue supports State funding that allows local governments flexibility to determine the best way to use the funding in implementing the Phase II stormwater requirements (NPDES permit). Bellevue opposes permit conditions that undermine local land use authority.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Refinements to Local Revitalization Financing (LRF): The City will support actions by the Legislature to modify the LRF tool to ensure that funding and beneficial conditions for approved projects are maintained.

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 8524

A RESOLUTION amending the adopted City of Bellevue State Legislative Agenda for the 2013 legislative session.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the city government is to provide high quality service to its citizens in the most efficient and effective manner possible; and

WHEREAS, cities in Washington are subject to state legislative action; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue believes that local government can be the most effective level of government if given the opportunity and should be given the authority to make decisions which are primarily local in nature; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2012, the Bellevue City Council passed Resolution No. 8488 adopting the City's State Legislative Agenda for 2013 and subsequently transmitted the Agenda to the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2013, the Bellevue City Council directed that the City's State Legislative Agenda be amended to include a revised policy statement regarding the SR 520 Bridge Replacement Project to achieve consistency with the City's Federal Legislative Agenda; and

WHEREAS, the Bellevue City Council wishes to communicate its additional legislative priorities to members of the Washington State Legislature; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Favorable consideration by the Washington State Legislature of the issues identified in the Amended State Legislative Agenda for 2013, a copy of which has been given Clerk's Receiving No. _____, will enable the City of Bellevue to more effectively serve its residents. Therefore, the Amended State Legislative Agenda for 2013 is hereby adopted.

Section 2. The Amended State Legislative Agenda for 2013 shall be conveyed to the appropriate members of the Washington State Legislature and shall form the basis for City of Bellevue communications with state legislators during the 2013 legislative session. The State Legislative Statement of Policy shall be utilized by City Council and staff in determining how to respond to other opportunities and issues which arise in the 2013 Legislative Session.

2790-RES
2/28/2013

Passed by the City Council this _____ day of _____, 2013,
and signed in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____,
2013.

(SEAL)

Conrad Lee, Mayor

Attest:

Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk